

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) Improvements on the orthodontic supports which can be applied to teeth, of the type which have a base for the adaptation and removable fixture to a tooth, and from which there extends a prolongation of an upper face with an inward curve for the placement of edged elements or support wires, characterized as having a moveable slide in a guide in the body able to close said inward curve and retain the wire in its interior, with the closing slide connected in a moveable way in the part of the body which has the inward curve for the introduction of the supporting wire, having retention elements on the slide on the guide which delimit stable open and closed positions on the receiving inward curve for the support wire.

2. (Withdrawn) Improvements on the orthodontic supports that can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having the guide for the slide on the body of the piece to be fixed upon the tooth to be established by means of a male and female guide in single or double dovetail.

3. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports which can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 2, characterized as having edges of the dovetailing and the corresponding guide which can be rounded off to dissipate torsion forces.

4. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports which can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having a means of retention for the slide in stable open and closed positions for the inward curve which carries the wire, to be established by means of a ridge in one of said fitted pieces and each having a groove in the other to allow, by reason of the elasticity of the material, the retention of the slide in the corresponding stable open and closed position in the inward curving receptor of the support wire.

5. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports which can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having a base which on its top has two mutually parallel bodies, each one of which has its corresponding inward curving receptor of wire and its slide with the capacity to be retained in the open and closed position.

6. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports that can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having the structure of the upper part of the body with a generally arched shape with the convexity directed outwards.

7. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports that can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having the guide of the body and the fitted element of the slide with a generally arched form of a circle in the longitudinal sense, allowing their mutually coordinated movement.

8. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports that can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having the upper part of the body showing various cavities on each side of the inward curving area that carries the wires, in order to allow for manipulation.

9. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports which can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having the closing slide with a longitudinal slot able to be guided on a longitudinal ridge in a fitted way to the base of adaptation and fixation to the tooth, each of said guide grooves and longitudinal ridges having an internal fit to limit the open and closed positions of the slide with respect to the supporting base.

10. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports which can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having limiting stops for the open and closed positions to be done by transverse grooves in the base guide and a ridge in the bottom of the slot on the slide, whose fit with said grooves determines the open and closed positions of the slide.

11. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports that can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having stops to determine the open and closed positions of the slide by means of a transverse ridge in the base guide and with each transverse groove in the bottom of the longitudinal slot of the slide able to fit with said respective transverse ridge in the open and closed positions of the slide.

12. (Withdrawn) Improvements in the orthodontic supports that can be applied to teeth, according to Claim 1, characterized as having a receptor base for the moving slide, and the slide itself that have in a fitted way a groove and a ridge which coincide for a guide which can be adopted with a straight form.

13. (Currently amended) An orthodontic bracket having a base for attachment to a tooth surface and ~~a pair of~~ first and second arm members extending from said base in an outward direction away from said tooth surface and defining an archwire slot between them, said first arm member defining an outward surface of said bracket opposite said base and to one side of said archwire slot, said second arm member ~~at least one of said arm members~~ having an outwardly convex curved shape opposite said base and including a receiving slot on its outward surface oriented transverse to said archwire slot and further having a correspondingly, ~~and a corresponding~~ curved slide member defining a convex outward surface of said bracket opposite said base and to the other side of said archwire slot, said slide member having a guide for slidable engagement with said receiving slot there beneath, wherein the slide member has a length sufficient to bridge said archwire slot so as to retain an archwire therein.

14. (Currently amended) The orthodontic bracket of claim 13 wherein said receiving slot and said guide have cooperatively and slidingly mating dovetail shapes, ~~has a shape for slidingly mating with a dovetail shape on said guide.~~

15. (Currently amended) The orthodontic bracket of claim 13 wherein the outwardly curved convex shape ~~of the arm member~~ is an arc of a circle.

16. (Currently amended) The orthodontic bracket of claim 14 wherein said ~~slide member~~ guide includes at least one retaining tab ~~retaining tabs~~ for cooperatively mating with at least one recess ~~recesses~~ in said ~~arm member receiving slot~~ to hold said slide member in a closed position spanning said archwire slot.

17. (Currently amended) The orthodontic bracket of claim 14 wherein said ~~arm member including said~~ receiving slot includes at least one retaining tab ~~retaining tabs~~ for cooperatively mating with at least one recess ~~recesses~~ in said ~~slide member~~ guide for selectively holding said slide member in either an open or a closed ~~to hold said slide member in one of an open and a closed position spanning said archwire slot.~~

18. (Currently amended) The orthodontic bracket of claim 13 wherein at least one of said slide member and said first arm member opposite said archwire slot from said slide member include a recess for the introduction of a tool for manipulation of said orthodontic bracket.

19. (Currently amended) An orthodontic bracket having a base for attachment to a tooth surface, a first pair of arm members ~~extending from said base in an outward direction and defining an archwire slot between them~~, and a second pair of arm members substantially parallel to said first pair ~~and likewise extending from said base in an outward direction and defining said archwire slot between them~~, each of said first pair and second pair comprising ~~at least one arm member having an outwardly convex curved shape and including a receiving slot, and a corresponding curved slide member having a guide for slidable engagement with said receiving slot, wherein the slide member has a length sufficient to bridge said archwire slot so as to retain an archwire therein.~~ first and second arm members extending from said base in an outward direction away from said tooth surface and defining an archwire slot between them, said first arm member defining an outward surface of said bracket opposite said base and to one side of said archwire slot, said second arm member having an outwardly convex curved shape opposite said base and including a receiving slot on its outward surface oriented transverse to said archwire slot and further having having a correspondingly curved slide member defining a convex outward surface of said bracket opposite said base and to the other side of said archwire slot, said slide member having a guide for slidable engagement with said receiving slot there beneath,

wherein the slide member has a length sufficient to bridge said archwire slot so as to retain an archwire therein.

20. (Currently amended) The orthodontic bracket of claim 19 wherein said receiving slot and said guide have cooperatively and slidingly mating dovetail shapes. ~~has a shape for slidingly mating with a dovetail shape on said guide.~~